St. Mary Magdalene Parish

St. Catherine, Aledo
St. Anthony, Matherville

Rev. John Thieryoung, Pastor
106 NE 4th Street
Aledo, IL 61231
(309) 582-7500
www.cpomc.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT **March 8, 2026**

Monday	7:30 AM St. Catherine	Donald Thieryoung
Tuesday	**6:30 PM St. Catherine**	Thomasine Bockman by Judy Baker
	7:00 PM St. Catherine	**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
Wednesday	7:30 AM **St. Catherine**	Dena DuVerney by Family
Thursday	**6:30 PM St. Anthony**	Junior Ragan by Lloyd & Rosemary Cook
	7:00 PM St. Anthony	**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
Friday	8:00 AM St. Anthony	Ron & Roberta Doubler by Friends & Family
Saturday	**7:00 AM St. Catherine**	**HOLY HOUR**
Saturday	4:00 PM St. Anthony	Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
Saturday	5:30 PM St. Catherine	Bill Gissel by Joe Baker
Sunday	8:00 AM St. Catherine	Julene Eilers
Sunday	9:45 AM St. Anthony	In Memory of Adalyn Marie Swanson by Jack & Luann Swan

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ps 23:1-6 / Eph 5:8-14 / Jn 9:1-41
Weekly Collection: $ 2,603

Parish office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9am-12pm. Please leave a message any other time.

Confessions: Thursday and Saturday, 7am to 7:50am, during Holy Hour. Saturday at St. Anthony from 3pm to 3:50pm, and Sunday at St. Catherine from 7:10am to 7:50am.

Pray the Rosary: The rosary is prayed every **Wednesday, following the 7:30am Mass at St. Catherine's.** Everyone is invited to join us in praying for the **many intentions** in our parish and our families.

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please call the parish office at 582-7500 to register or if you have any questions about our community.

Lenten Schedule: Tuesdays at **St. Catherine**, and **Thursdays** at **St. Anthony** during Lent, **Mass will be celebrated at 6:30pm followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7pm.** As in past years, we will use a different Stations of the Cross for meditation each week. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following the Stations.

Special Opportunity for Confession: in addition to the Confession schedules described above, Monsignor Tom Mack will join Fr. Thieryoung in hearing Confessions on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:30pm in Aledo.

Group Study: The study is *Eternal Rest – The Art of Dying Well,* and we will meet for part three this Monday, March 9th at the Bean Field Coffee House in Viola at 6:30pm.

Elizabeth Ministry Meeting: Wednesday, March 18th at 2pm, St. Catherine Hall.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: We are scheduled for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, March 14th at 4pm at The Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, 607 NE Madison Ave, Peoria. Students and their immediate families are asked to be in the Cathedral by 3:15pm. Our Confirmation Class this year: Alyse DeBlock, Nathalia Pollock, Jaylee Jones, Ivy Colbrese, and Kolton Paslawski. ***Pray for our Confirmation candidates as they prepare to receive the Grace of the Holy Spirit.***

One Bread, One Body: The next issue is available at the entrances of the churches. The booklet provides a daily meditation on the word of God.

Lenten Almsgiving: Consider a donation to the **Mercer County Food Pantry.** Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 63, Aledo, IL 61231. Call Sharon at 309-507-1813 for more information/questions.

St. Anthony Mowing: The mowing season is fast approaching and your help is needed. Please see, call, or text John Krebsbach (309-781-0697) for available weeks for mowing. Also, a church grounds clean-up is planned for **April 11th.** Come any time after 8:30AM. We will be picking up sticks, cutting low hanging branches and anything else to make the mowing easier.

Volunteers Needed: Our parish is looking for **2 volunteers** to work the **Mercer County Food Pantry** on **Tuesday, April 28th** from **5:30-7pm** and again on **Friday, May 1st** from **8am-12noon.** Please call the rectory if you would like to volunteer your gift of time for either or both days.

Magnificat Subscription: Anyone currently subscribing, or those who wish to subscribe to Magnificat, please let Father know, or call the office if you would like to renew or subscribe. Cost for the year is $42.00. Please **make checks payable to St. Mary Magdalene Parish** and submit by April 1st.

The Man of the Shroud Exhibition: April 24-April 26, 8:00am to 8:00pm at St. Pius X – McCarthy Hall in Rock Island. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Allouez Council # 658. Included in the Exhibition: Life-size replica of the Shroud of Turin plus 31 displays describing the history and scientific examination of the Shroud, a large Crucifix based upon the wounds depicted in the Shroud, an informative documentary movie, and opportunities for private prayer and public devotions including Eucharistic Adoration. The exhibit is self-guided and typically takes 30-90 minutes. Cost is free, but a donation is appreciated.

FORMED: Our parishes subscribe to **Formed.org** – a great resource for video, audio, and e-books. Movies, study resources, fiction and non-fiction books, children's programs, are at your fingertips. Go to the site and register. Enter our Parish name: St. Mary Magdalene, 106 NE 4th ST., Aledo, IL 61231. (Check out the "AMEN" prayer app at FORMED.)

Diocesan Anniversary Book: The Peoria Diocese is celebrating its 150th anniversary. A high-quality professionally produced coffee table book is being offered with a photo history of the Diocese and with photos of all the churches in the Diocese with brief descriptions of each. The price is $39 and it will be available at Easter, 2026. Orders are being taken now to anticipate the number of copies to be printed. Let Father know if you would like to purchase a copy!

REGULATIONS FOR LENT AND EASTER TRIDUUM

Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian year. Priests, religious and laity are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial, attentiveness to prayer, and especially to works of charity and mercy.

Everyone of 14 yrs. of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18th and all Fridays of Lent.

Everyone 18 yrs. and under 59 yrs. of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18th and Good Friday April 3rd. On these two days of fast and abstinence, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is a serious matter. May our Lenten journey bring us closer to the cross and our Resurrected Savior.

The Seven Sorrows of Mary

The devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Mary helps us to meditate on the events in Our Lady's life when she lovingly and willingly united herself to her Son's sacrifice on the Cross and shared in His self-giving for our redemption. The Seven Sorrows are:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34–35) As Mary presents the Infant Jesus in the Temple, the aged Simeon predicts that a sword of sorrow will pierce her soul. This is the "beginning of the end," where Mary's joy is forever joined to the shadow of the Cross.

2. The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13–14) The Holy Family escapes in the night and travels to Egypt, fleeing the murderous intent of Herod. Mary experiences the sorrow of exile and the fear for her Child's life, and the knowledge of the death of the Holy Innocents.

3. The Loss of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:43–45) For three agonizing days, Mary and Joseph search for the young Jesus in Jerusalem. This represents the greatest interior pain: the perceived "loss" of God's presence.

4. Meeting Jesus on the Way to Calvary (Luke 23:26–27) Mary watches her Son, beaten and disfigured, carrying the heavy wood of the Cross. Their eyes meet in a silent exchange of love and shared redemptive suffering.

5. Standing at the Foot of the Cross (John 19:25–27) Mary endures the three-hour agony of her Son. She becomes the "Queen of Martyrs" not by shedding her blood, but by the "martyrdom of the heart."

6. Mary Receives the Dead Body of Jesus (John 19:38–40) The *Pietà*. The Body of the Savior is placed in the arms of His Mother. She who once held Him as an infant now holds Him as the sacrificed Lamb.

7. The Burial of Jesus (John 19:41–42) Mary watches as the stone is rolled across the entrance of the tomb. She enters into the "Great Silence," waiting in perfect trust for the Resurrection.

Meditation on the Seven Sorrows is a way to Jesus through Mary. May our hearts be moved by Mary's sorrows to a greater love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.